

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SECTION

386.3 (21 Oct 45)GB

AFO 500
21 October 1945

SUBJECT: Handling and Exploitation of Surrendered Japanese Documents.

TO : See distribution.

1. The provisions of this directive apply to all agencies in Japan and Korea that represent United States interests in the collection of documents.

2. For the convenience of all concerned the following extracts of existing directives are quoted:

a. SOPI No. 4c, Hq AFPAC, dated 8 August 1945.

SECTION I

BASIC POLICY

2. The examination of Captured Documents and Prisoners of War under AFPAC is the exclusive responsibility of the theater pool called Translator and Interpreter Service (TIS). Uniformity of procedure and centralized control are essential to the production of the maximum intelligence from captured documents and prisoners of war at all intelligence echelons with the minimum of delay in transmission.

b. Basic Intelligence Plan, "Blacklist" Operation, Annex 5d, Hq AFPAC, dated 14 August 1945.

SECTION II

THE HANDLING OF CAPTURED ENEMY DOCUMENTS

THE PROBLEM OF DOCUMENTS:

3. . . . It will therefore be necessary for Language Detachments to select for evacuation through normal channels to Translator and Interpreter Service, GHQ, only such documents as are of immediate general importance. The remainder will, so far as possible, be left "in place" after arrangements have been made for their safeguarding. Documents which cannot be so left must be carefully collected in central repositories to await final disposition.

BASIC: Ltr, file 386.3, to (Distribution), subj: "Handling and Exploitation of Surrendered Japanese Documents," dtd 21 Oct 45--2.

4. . . . Although they (Intelligence Agencies) are free to collect what documents they require, permission to take them out of the area must be obtained from the Army TIS Advanced Echelon (Document-Interrogation Center) concerned, and the removal registered there. There are represented at GHQ many agencies who will require to see documents for action in Japan before they are evacuated.

7. . . . It will be necessary for all such documents (those dealing with Japanese war effort and organization for warfare) to be specially listed and marked as documents that must eventually be evacuated or destroyed.

DOCUMENT PROCEDURE:

9. A brief summary is given below of the policy to be adopted in handling documents:

(iii) Evacuation through established military channels to TIS, GHQ.

(iv) No documents will be removed by anybody without the permission of the local TIS Advanced Echelon (Document-Interrogation Center).

RESPONSIBILITIES OF APMIES:

11. (i) Arranging for seizure and safeguarding of documents.

(ii) Detailed planning for the handling of documents throughout their areas of responsibility.

(iii) Establishment of such TIS Advanced Echelons as may be required in addition to those Language Detachments and TIS Advanced Echelons operating with Divisions, Corps, Armies, and Task Forces.

c. General Orders No. 9, GHQ SCAP, dated 2 October 1945.

4. The organization and function of technical military intelligence in this theater is designed to accomplish the following primary objectives:

b. 51. . . .

(5) To focus all field agencies of the Ground, Naval and Air Forces through ATIS for all document activity.

5. For effective coordination, the following policy provisions will be enforced by subordinate echelons:

BASIC: Ltr, File 386.3, to (Distribution), subj: "Handling and Exploitation of Surrendered Japanese Documents," dtd 21 Oct 45--3/

e. To protect intelligence material and records in limited numbers against exploitation by a single research agency, their removal will be cleared through the Occupation Force Commander, in order to make these items accessible to other intelligence agencies.

3. The following procedure will govern the handling and evacuation of all documents from Japan and Korea:

a. Documents to be evacuated will be collected at target site by occupation force representatives or intelligence team such as U.S. Bombing Survey, Nav Tech Jap, etc.

b. Each intelligence team will be accompanied by an ATIS representative to be furnished by the occupation force commander of the area in which the team is operating. This representative will assist the field team in screening of documents.

c. Documents collected for evacuation will be prepared for shipment, labelled in accordance with par. 4 and turned over to ATIS representatives by collecting agency. Document will then be evacuated through ATIS channels to Tokyo for registration, packaging, and shipment to USA.

d. All documents emanating from Japan and Korea will be processed through ATIS to Washington Document Center, combined Army-Navy library.

e. Duplicate copies selected by field agencies will upon request be forwarded through ATIS to Washington Document Center, thence to desired addressee. No documents will be evacuated directly to agency in United States by selecting agency in Japan.

f. To insure ultimate availability of all documents to all interested agencies, shipping advices of all documents to be evacuated to Washington will be distributed periodically to collecting agencies in Japan, prior to shipment, by Washington Document Center advance echelon at AFAC.

4. a. To insure the expeditious handling of documents, care will be exercised by selecting agencies in packaging and labelling of documents.

b. Each document or bundle of documents will be accompanied by AFAC WDIT Form No. 1 completely filled out.

c. Two additional copies of the above form will be prepared for each document or bundle of documents and will be forwarded to ATIS separately from documents.

BASIO: Ltr. file 356.3, to (Distribution), subj: "Handling and Exploitation of Surrendered Japanese Documents," dtd 21 Oct 45-4.

5. Any surrendered documents now on hand in collecting agencies may be retained by the agency as long as documents are being exploited. Upon completion of local exploitation, documents will be forwarded to ATIS in accordance with par. 4.

6. Where documents are required for immediate exploitation locally, ATIS representative will collecting agency will release to team, document with properly completed form attached. Pursuant to par. 4 above, two copies of form will forwarded to ATIS. Upon completion of local exploitation, document will be evacuated to ATIS in accordance with par. 3, accompanied by copy of such translation as has been completed. Original AAPAC WDIF Form No. 1 will remain attached to document until it is finally delivered to ATIS.

7. The following serial number blocks are assigned:

G-2, Eighth Army	1 - 1000
G-2, Sixth Army	1001 - 2000
G-2, XXIV Corps	2001 - 3000
NavTechJap	3001 - 4000
Econ. & Sci. Sec.	4001 - 5000
U.S. Strat. Bomb Survey	5001 - 6000
Atomic Bomb Survey	6001 - 7000

For the A.C. of S., G-2:

W.S. WOOD
Colonel, Infantry
Chief, WDIF Section
G-2, SCAP

1 Incl: AAPAC WDIF Form No. 1.

DISTRIBUTION:

Chief CWS	
Chief Engr	
Chief Ord	
Chief Surg	
Chief Sig	
Chief QM	
G-2, 8th Army	ATIS
G-2, 6th Army	Econ & Sci Section
G-2, XXIV Corps	U.S. Strat Bomb Survey
A-2, FEAF	Atomic Bomb Survey
NavTechJap	Wash. Doc. Center
OIC	

Screening Agency _____

(Intelligence Team)

Place _____

(Geographic Location)

Date _____

Target Number _____

Secured by _____

(Factual Unit)

or

War Department

Intelligence Section Serial Number _____

Title or Category _____

Issuing Authority _____

Date or Period of Issue _____

Description of Item and Contents _____

(Do not write below this line)

To be checked by WDC screening:

Recommended disposition:

1. To ATIS for immediate partial or complete translation.
2. To ATIS for partial or complete translation and evaluation to WDC.
3. To ATIS for immediate evacuation to WDC.
4. To ATIS for destruction.
5. To be retained for local exploitation.

WDC Screening Remarks:

AFAC WDIE Form No. 1